

Remarks

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Claims 19-25 have been newly added for consideration. Each of the new claims is fully supported by the original specification and thus does not add new matter. For example, Claim 19 is supported by the original specification at line 21, page 2 to line 3, page 3; pages 4-6, and FIGS. 1 through 4.

Upon entry of the above claims, Claims 1-25 are now pending and under consideration.

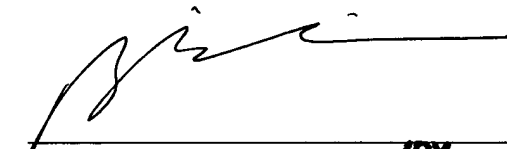
Claims 1-18 stand rejected under the judicially-created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over Claim 1 of each of U.S. Patent Nos. 6,389,197 and 6,487,233. The rejections, however, have been obviated by filing two separate terminal disclaimers with respect to U.S. Patent Nos. 6,389,197 and 6,487,233, respectively. This action should place the application in condition for allowance. Hence, Claims 1-18 are now patentable. Similarly, the newly-added Claims 19-25 are also patentable.

In view of the above, Applicants submit that there is no other outstanding issue in the application and an official notice of allowance should be issued. Enclosed is a check for excess claim fees and the fees for the terminal disclaimers.


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Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 5, 2003

  
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Scott C. Harris  
Reg. No. 32,030

**/BY  
BING AI  
REG. NO. 43,312**

Fish & Richardson P.C.  
PTO Customer No.   
4350 La Jolla Village Drive, Suite 500  
San Diego, California 92122  
Telephone: (858) 678-5070  
Facsimile: (858) 678-5099

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